In February 2012 the potato commissions in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon launched a new cooperative effort in research. The aim of this initiative is to increase cooperation and efficiency of the research programs funded by the three potato commissions that total about $2 million annually. It will also work toward a comprehensive research results reporting process that aims to get useful information to the growers and industry members who need it. Toward this end, a new website has been created where research results, integrated pest management guidance, and production information of many kinds will be presented. Suggestions and feedback are welcome as we complete the many pages on the site.

Research Library. A major focus of the website is the searchable database called the Research Library. This database was originally created in 2003-04 by the Washington State Potato Commission (WSPC). It contains all past Proceedings from the Washington and Washington/Oregon Potato Conference, many past issues of the WSPC’s newsletter Spud Topics that relate to research and extension, all past issues of this newsletter Potato Progress, and many other documents. A guide to using the Research Library is posted on the home page.
Commercial potato seed samples are requested for the 2013 Washington Seed Lot Trial. **Two hundred whole (single drop) seed is an acceptable sample size, or 50 lbs of 4 oz single drop seed.**

**Requested:** 50 lbs of 2-4 oz whole seed, no seed treatments.  
We want a representative sample - if applicable, include a representative amount of ROTTEN TUBERS!

(Seed over 6 oz is not acceptable)

A representative sample is needed. Sampling the first (or last) 300 seed from the truck is not likely to provide a representative sample of the lot. Sample tags may be obtained by calling the Potato Commission at 509-765-8845.

Your assistance with collection and drop off of seed samples is needed. Seed samples may be taken to the WSU Othello Research Unit (509-488-3191); located on Booker Road ¼ mile south from State Highway 26 and about five miles east of Othello. For sample pick up and any questions regarding the seed lot trials please call:

**South Basin:** Tim Waters (509-545-3511), Mark Pavek (509-335-6861), or Zach Holden (509-335-3452).

**North Basin:** Carrie Huffman Wohleb (509-754-2011), Mark Pavek (509-335-6861), or Zach Holden (509-335-3452).

In the North Basin, one seed “drop-off” has been established. It is located at Qualls Ag Labs (Mick Qualls, 509-787-4210 ext 16) on the corner of Dodson Road and Road 4; come to front office between 8 am and 5 pm. Please call the numbers below to arrange additional pick up sites. Samples will be picked up at 2:00 pm the day before each planting date (below) to be included. Growers planting in early March should drop their samples off at the Othello Research Center or store the samples and call the numbers below for pick up. For all alternative pick up locations or questions please call Mark Pavek at 509-335-6861 or Zach Holden at 509-335-3452.

**PICK UP DATES ARE ONE DAY PRIOR TO THE PLANTING DATES BELOW**

**Remaining seed lot planting dates for 2013 are:**  
2nd April 9  
3rd April 23  
4th (Late) May 7

**2013 Potato Field Day - Thursday June 27**

This year’s virus reading of the seed lots will take place on June 11 and 25.